THE TIMES FOUNDED 1886.

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RICHMOND, VA., SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1908.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

OFFERS FIELD

Present System of Legislation Unsatisfactory, Much Time and Money Being Wasted

BILLS SLAUGHTERED BY DILATORY TACTICS

Many Important Measures Are Smothered or Strangled-Race Against Time, Giving Professional Obstructionists Fine Opportunity to Get in Their Work.

they are voting upon, and even the best informed are only partislly acquainted with many matters to which they are obliged to give or refuse their sanction. The same method of procedure on the part of the stockholders and directors of a corporation would be likely to put it into the hands of a receiver. A better system would appear to be for a limited number of bills—say, 600 or 800—to be carefully drawn in advance of the meeting of the Legislature, fully considered in committees, fairly and freely discussed in the two houses, and finally passed in the four-story brick building, in which the process of the started in the picker room, lapper was located the slasher room, lapper was located the slasher room, lapper

No Action Taken at Meeting of Board of Directors Held Yesterday.

NEW YORK, March 13.—No action was taken by the directors of the Southern Railway Company at their meeting to-day on the preferred stock dividend, which is usually acted upon at this time of the year, and it was stated after the meeting that the dividend question had not come up for consideration. No official explanation was made why no action was taken. The directors did not make public the earnings for the last six months.

The directors last October reduced the semi-annual disbursement from 2½ to 1½ per cent. Previous to that time the company had been paying 5 per cent. annually on its \$60,000,000 of preferred stock. The financial community had fully anticipated the action of the directors to-day, as it was generally understood that the Southern Railway had been forced to meet new conditions growing out of legislative rate enactments, and that the inability of the company to hande economically all the business offered several months ago because of inadequate facilities had lessened the company's earnings.

MILLION DOLLAR FIRE AT BAHIA, BRAZIL

BAHIA, BRAZIL, March 13.—A great configration is raging in the business section of this city, and the firemen seem to be unable to check it.

Already thirty-three buildings have been consumed, with a loss estimated at \$1.000,000. There have been several fatalities.

Bahle is the compactable of the

faintities.

Bahla is the commercial city of Brazil. It exports large quantities of sugar, cotton, tobacco, coffee, cocca, rum and hides. It is situated about 890 miles northeast of Rio Janeiro, and has a population somewhat in excess of 200,000.

RINGLEADERS ARRESTED

WILL VOTE ON LICENSE

GIVE THEM BIG OVATION

GIRL IS FATALLY BURNED

and directors of a corporation would be likely to put it into the hands of a receiver. A better system would appear to be for a limited number of bills—say, 600 or 800—to be carefully drawn in advance of the meeting of the Legislature, fully considered in committees, fairly and freely discussed in the two houses, and finally passed upon by a recorded vote.

Now measures are smothered in committees or strangled by dilatory tactics, when they should be brought formultees or strangled by dilatory tactics, when they should be brought formultees or strangled by dilatory tactics, when they should be brought formultees or strangled by dilatory tactics, when they should be brought formultees or strangled by dilatory tactics, when they should be brought formultees, first and its main building had a narrow escape. A large amount of valuable machinery was burned, and the total loss, it is said, will reach \$50,000 or more; insurance unknown. The company will rebuild at once.

TO IMPROVE BIG SUNFLOWER RIVER IN MISSISSIPPI

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13.—
The Board of Engineers to-day ordered a detailed survey to be made of the Big Sundower River, in Mississippi, with the view of improving it by locks and dams from Baird to Hushpuckena. In October the board made an adverse report on this project, which is one of great importance, as affecting the delta of the Mississippi, but upon a rehearing to-day the former decision was reversed.

Bicycle Service to Protect Patrons

To protect its patrons against loss of their paper, either by theft or through carelessness of carriers. The Times-Dispatch has established a bicycle message service, which will supply all losses within a few minutes from the time they are reported. It is necessary that all complaints be made without delay, and patrons are therefore requested to communicate with the circulation department, telephone No. 4041, as soon as any irregularity is allscovered.

A clerk is on duty in the circulation department from 5 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the evening for the purpose of handling complaints, and the patrons of The Times-Dispatch will greatly assist the management if they will make their complaints either by letter addressed to the circulation department or by telephone directly to the department.

If this is done the error will be rectified gromptly.

LILLEY HAS TO GET

Those First Engaged Refuse to Act Under Committee's Restrictive Methods.

PROBE TO BOTTOM, SAYS CHAIRMAN BOUTELL

Statements and Counterstatements Show Friction Between Complainant and Investigators-Charge That Lilley's Stories

"I wish to state very clearly, as chairman of the investigating committee, that we propose to probe this painful affair to the very bottom; and in doing so we propose to proceed within the law and with due regard for the protection of Mr. Lilley, as a member of the House of Representatives. In pursuance of this course the committee to-day decided unanimously to call on Mr. Lilley for a list of the witnesses he desires to have summoned and for a full statement in connection with each witness of the papers he desires to have that witness bring. As soon as this list is received by me I shall issue subpoemas dues tecum for all of these witnesses, and they will be summoned at once by the will be summoned at once by the sergeant-at-arms.

sergeant-at-arms.

'The committee has thus placed entirely in the hands of Mr. Lilley and his attorneys the question of what witnesses shall or shall not be called at this time, and what papers and documents shall or shall not be produced. The committee will resume its sittings next Monday rough to swar and to hear. day, ready to swear and to hear such witnesses as Mr. Lilley shall have designated."

have designated."
The committee at its executive session this afternoon, in addition to deciding to ask Mr. Lilley for a list of his witnesses, also reached the decision to allow any one whose name has been mentioned during the course of the investigation, to appear before the committee and make a statement.

Mr. Lilley's Tart Reply.

Mr. Lilley's Tart Reply.

Replying to the statement made by Chairman Boutell, Mr. Lilley to-night said:

"Referring to the first paragraph of the committee's statement. I would say that if the investigation does develop into a farce the responsibility will rest with others, as I personally begged to take the responsibility of the investigation and to furnish the ablest counsel procurable. The committee has denied me this privilege, and from this time on the committee must assume the responsibility of securing the evidence from the witnesses whom I have designated and will designate.

"Regerding the second paragraph or the chairman's statement, I would say that the legal phase of the matter as expressed by the

(Continued on Second Page.)

HITCHCOCK TRIAL

you did not believe Mr. Hitchcock had mistreated your daughter, Ellen?"
"I did not say that."
"Did you say that in substance?"
"Well, I said something like that."
Elsie Voecks, who said that she would be fourteen years old next July, was a witness to-day. Called by the prosecution, she corroborated the story of her visits to the actor's home at Great Neck, Long Island, as told yesterday by Ellen von Hagen. Ellen, cross-examined by the defense, reaffirmed the substance of her direct testimony.

Fair and Colder.

Says Laws Are Made at the White House Without Consultation With Congress

WILL LAWS BE PASSED AT ROOSEVELT'S BIDDING?

This Is the Question Bacon Asked the Senate-Tillman Asks if the President Is Not Making Friends of the Capi-

THAT GREAT CENTRAL DEITY

THAT GREAT CENTRAL DELTY

This you say that in substance?

This you say that in substance?

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Attempts Snielde With Razor.

| Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
| NORFOLK. VA. March 13.—lohn Pallett, agod thirty-five, attempted suicide late to-night by using a razor on his throat. He made the effort in the presence of his wife, who wrestled with him and probably saved his life. He is in the hospital, in a precarious condition.

ALL CONVICTED OF GRAFT

LABOR MEN AGAINST TAFT

SHIP SUBSIDY BILL

OPPOSED TO SITE AND LARGER SUM

Chairman Bartholdt Talks of Post-office Situation With Richmond Business Men

APPROPRIATION ASKED TOO MUCH, HE SAYS

Building Should Be Downtown but in Some Other Place-Difference of Opinion May Develop Among Visiting Congressmen-Banquet Last Night.

What Chairman Said

troublesome, our foreign competitors regulated their rates so as to crowd us out."

Mr. Simmons suggested that the amount of compensation for mail transportation in the foreign service in any one year should be limited to the estimated revenues of the government for that particular service, and Mr. Gaillinger, in charge of the shipping bill, said he would be willing to accept the amendment.

BELLE OF COLONY TO WED

(Continued on Last Page.)